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US House Approves China PNTR

The US House of Representatives on 24 May approved, by a 237-197 vote, legislation granting China Permanent Normal Trade Relations (PNTR) with the US. PNTR would put China on par with the US' other WTO trading partners, and replaces the annual process of Congressional debate over China's trade status with the US. The PNTR bill now proceeds to the Senate, where easy passage is expected in early June.

China must still conclude WTO accession agreements with five countries: Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico and Switzerland. Swiss officials report that Switzerland and China are "very close" to finalizing a deal. However, a report out of China indicates that diplomatic ties between Taiwan and Costa Rica and Guatemala could hinder efforts between China and the two Latin American countries to conclude accession agreements. The next session of the WTO working party on China's entry is scheduled for 23 June.

Russia Queues up for WTO Accession Bid

Russia moved one step closer in its bid to join the WTO last week, at the first meeting in 18 months of the WTO working group on Russian accession. Russia is currently looking to accelerate its six-year efforts to join the organization, and has said that it will make its international obligations to trade rules a priority in domestic legislation once it has joined to WTO.

In working group meetings on Thursday, 25 May, several WTO members raised questions about the transparency of the country's laws. Japan complained of conflicting regulations in different Russian regions that make conducting business there very difficult. The US and New Zealand both accused Russia of discriminating against their chicken imports because of a law that states that poultry can only be imported by road.

In other accession news, Lithuania hopes to conclude negotiations on joining the WTO by the end of the summer. According to a statement by the Lithuanian Foreign Ministry, the majority of agricultural issues were settled in bilateral talks with the US, Australian, Canadian, New Zealand, and Cuban delegations during negotiations in Geneva on 23-24 May. Characterized as a "breakthrough," these sessions included discussions on the trade of products such as beef, poultry, and sugar; it is these breakthroughs that allow Lithuania to expect to conclude WTO negotiations by autumn.

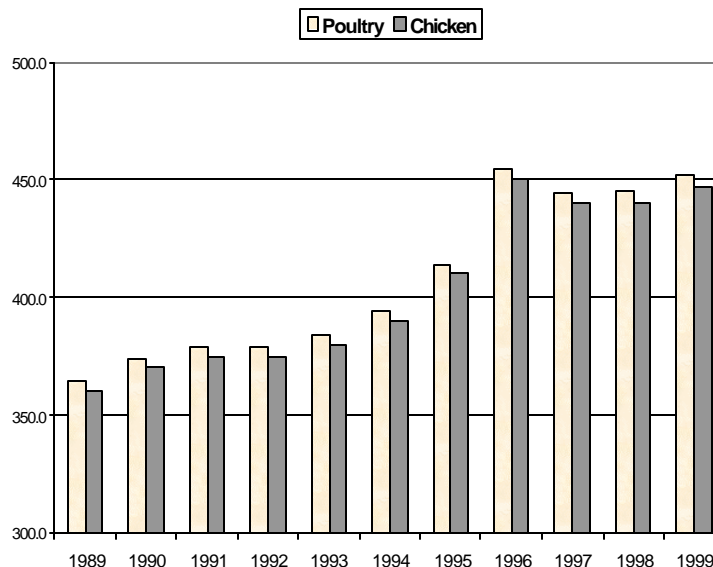
Ukraine is pushing to join the WTO and get associated membership status in the European Union before the end of this year. Prime Minister Yushchenko was in Brussels last week for talks with EU officials. The Ukrainian government promised to resolve the five issues still outstanding. The EU has pledged to support Ukraine in its bid for WTO accession and for associated membership status at the EU.

Source: BRIDGES Weekly Trade News Digest

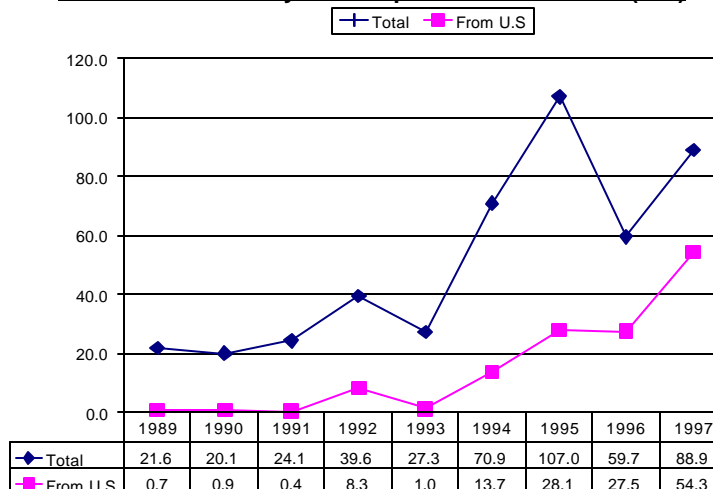
South Africa

Poultry production in South Africa is almost 99 percent chicken. From 1989 to 1999, production grew 24 percent. Poultry imports more than doubled between 1988 and 1998 growing 138 percent. Imports of chicken increased from 8,025 mt to 44,531 mt. Imports of turkey dropped from 17,837 mt to 16,441 mt. In 1989 poultry imports from the U.S. to South Africa only totaled 660 mt, a mere 3 percent of the total imports. Most of the imports consisted of turkey (594mt) compared to only 58 mt of chicken. By 1997 poultry imports from the U.S. totaled 61 percent of the total imports.

South Africa Poultry Meat Production in Metric Tons (000)



South Africa Poultry Meat Imports in Metric Tons (000)



Source: Food and Agriculture Organization;
U.S. Department of Commerce, Census Bureau

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Inspected Egg Products-U.S. & Canada Export/Import Trade
U.S. Exports to Canada, in Pounds (Preliminary)

Week Ending May 27, 2000

Year-To-Date

	(000)		(000)	
Type	2000	1999/1	2000	1999
Liquid	153	440	2,308	6,085
Frozen	4	0	44	6
Dried	0	22	213	196
Total	157	462	2,565	6,287

U.S. Imports From Canada, in Pounds (Preliminary)

Week Ending May 27, 2000

Year-To-Date

	(000)		(000)	
Type	2000	1999/1	2000	1999
Liquid	101	76	2,449	1,917
Frozen	8	6	263	103
Dried	12	0	575	60
Total	121	82	3,287	2,080

Inspected Shell Eggs**U.S Exports To Canada, In 30-Dozen Cases (Preliminary)**

Week Ending May 27, 2000

Year-To-Date

	2000	1999/1	2000	1999
Jumbo	58	50	463	360
Extra Large	900	570	13,662	12,295
Large	3,248	2,098	61,065	45,442
Medium	1,160	1,133	14,163	20,449
Ungraded	2,190	13,680	74,190	178,169
Misc	900	0	6,210	3,228
Total	8,456	17,531	169,753	259,943

/1 Comparable Week, to-date figures may not total due to rounding.

Source: USDA/AMS Poultry Programs, Market News Branch in cooperation with Agriculture Canada, Poultry Development Division.

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER INSPECTION W/E 27-May-00
(PRELIMINARY)**U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED DOMESTICALLY**

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
	THOUSANDS		
HEAD	2,077	1,553	3,630
LAST WEEK	1,873	1,584	3,457
SAME WEEK YR AGO	2,274	1,405	3,679
TO-DATE/2000	42,724	29,084	71,808
TO-DATE/1999	46,426	28,258	74,684
	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
	THOUSANDS		
HEAD	219	0	219
LAST WEEK	426	0	426
SAME WEEK YR AGO	549	13	562
TO-DATE/2000	10,430	50	10,480
TO-DATE/1999	10,297	168	10,465

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, POULTRY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

**TOTAL U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED
IN THE U.S. AND CANADA**

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
	THOUSANDS		
HEAD	2,296	1,553	3,849
LAST WEEK	2,299	1,584	3,883
SAME WEEK YR AGO	2,823	1,418	4,241
TO-DATE/2000	53,154	29,134	82,288
TO-DATE/1999	56,723	28,426	85,149

CENTRAL REGION PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND FOR DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS. 02-JUN-00**CHICKEN PRICES**

	-----FROZEN-----		-----FRESH-----	
FAT	FOB	DELIVERED	FOB	DELIVERED
CONTENT	DOCK	DOCK	DOCK	DOCK
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE				

0 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

CHICKEN PRICES, WITH ADDED SKIN

15% OR LESS				
RANGE	-	-	13.00	-
WTD AVERAGE			13.00	

20,400 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

15-20%				
RANGE	11.00	14.00	11.00-13.00	12.00-14.00
WTD AVERAGE	11.00	14.00	11.76	13.14

1,183,200 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

20% OR MORE				
RANGE	-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE				

0 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

* INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING STATES: AL, AR, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MI, MN, MO, MS, ND, NE, OK, OH, SD, TN, TX, WI

EASTERN REGION PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND FOR DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS. 02-JUN-00**CHICKEN PRICES**

	-----FROZEN-----		-----FRESH-----	
FAT	FOB	DELIVERED	FOB	DELIVERED
CONTENT	DOCK	DOCK	DOCK	DOCK
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	17.00	-	16.00	-
WTD AVERAGE	17.00		16.00	

604,000 pounds, this includes 104,000 pounds for export shipment.

CHICKEN PRICES, WITH ADDED SKIN

15% OR LESS				
RANGE	13.00-15.00	14.00	12.00	15.00
WTD AVERAGE	14.65	14.00	12.00	15.00

660,000 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

15-20%				
RANGE	12.20-14.00	13.00	11.50-13.50	-
WTD AVERAGE	12.65	13.00	12.32	

1,424,000 pounds, this includes 216,000 pounds for export shipment.

20% OR MORE				
RANGE	-	-	-	12.75
WTD AVERAGE				12.75

200,000 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

* INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING STATES: CT, DE, FL, GA, MA, MD, ME, NC, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, SC, VA, VT, WV

NATIONAL YOUNG TURKEY PARTS AND BULK MEAT

FROZEN (UNLESS SPECIFIED), CENTS PER LB., DELIVERED FIRST RECEIVERS, PART AND FULL TRUCKLOTS

JUNE 02, 2000

Trade sentiment on tom drums mostly steady to fully steady with some cautiousness starting to develop. Demand light to fair with best interest noted for export. Offerings light to instances adequate with some held with more confidence than others. Frozen thigh meat trade sentiment steady to firm, however, some buyers are reluctant to pay the higher asking prices. Inquiry light to instances fair with the light to adequate offerings held with confidence. Tom breast meat and destrapped tenderloins undertone generally steady. Demand light to fair with some processors noting an increased further processed interest. Offerings mostly adequate. For export: tom necks (1 container) 13.50, frozen fine grind 10% fat ground turkey (1 load) 50, tom defatted gizzards (1 container) 64 cents delivered.

FRIDAY, JUNE 02, 2000**EXPORT TRADING**

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)	WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICE	WEEKLY VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	22.00-25.00		23.37	290	24.44	698
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS	18.50		18.50	364	18.79	860
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM	23.00		23.00	104	23.80	520
TAILS						
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/	12.50		12.50	200	12.72	360
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	63.00		63.00	80	61.50	480

THURSDAY, JUNE 01, 2000**EXPORT TRADING**

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	25.00-26.00		25.16	248
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS	19.00		19.00	40
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM	23.00-25.00		24.00	416
TAILS		R	19.00	80
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/		W	13.00	160
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	61.00-62.00		61.67	120

WEDNESDAY, MAY 31, 2000**EXPORT TRADING**

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	25.00-25.50		25.25	160
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS	19.00		19.00	456
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM		F	24.00	312
TAILS		R	19.00	80
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/	13.00		13.00	160
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	61.00		61.00	280

TUESDAY, MAY 30, 2000**EXPORT TRADING**

	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS		F	24.00	104
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS		W	18.50	104
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM		F	24.00	312
TAILS		R	19.00	80
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/		F	12.63	160
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN		F	62.22	360

MONDAY, MAY 29, 2000
NO EXPORT TRADING REPORTED DUE TO THE MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY

1/ CODES FOR LAST SIGNIFICANT TRADE (L.S.T.): M=MONDAY T=TUESDAY W=WEDNESDAY R=THURSDAY F=FRIDAY

2/ Product contains 15-20% fat with skin added.

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